

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TITLE KVP in Oranienburg

25X1A

EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 25 August 1953

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

25X1X

- 25X1A. [] the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp was occupied by the KVP Bereitschaft 1916, which numbered an estimated 2,000 men. [] the unit had been redesignated Bereitschaft. The unit was known to be subordinate only to the Ministry of the Interior with which it was connected by direct telephone lines and teletype circuits. Elements of the Bereitschaft, including the C-unit, made preparations for their departure to the summer camp. The tank elements allegedly were to go to Jueterbog for firing practices.
2. The Bereitschaft was headed by Lieutenant Colonel Strelitz (fnu); chief of staff was Captain Seibt (fnu). The headquarters included about 55 officers. A headquarters motor transport company of about 40 men was directly subordinate to the headquarters. Senior Lieutenant Irmischer (fnu) was in command of the 1st Kommando.
3. Eight light ZIS-3 field guns, 4 x 122-mm field howitzers, 12 x 57-mm AT guns and about 12 x 82-mm and 120-mm mortars were seen with the B-unit of the KVP Bereitschaft Oranienburg. About 8 T-34/85 tanks and 50 to 60 SU-76 guns were seen with the C-unit, which was also equipped with an armored scout car which, however, at that time, was at an undetermined repair shop. The SA 7 (sic) was equipped with about 15 T-34 tanks, instruction on which was observed almost daily.
4. Prior to 17 June, elements of the Bereitschaft, including all tanks of the C-unit, were at the Weisswasser troop training grounds. They were called back to their post on 17 June and were on the alert at the post until 25 June. About 1,800 KVPs of the Bereitschaft were trucked to Berlin-Friedrichsfelde. The Magerviehshof in Friedrichsfelde served as assembly point for employment in Berlin. About 200 KVPs remained at the Sachsenhausen camp. The Bereitschaft occupied strong points Nos 80 through 88 in Berlin, which included Warschauer Bruecke, Alexanderplatz, Schoeneweide and Treptower Park. The bulk of the KVPs was employed in border guard duty, and small elements were detached to the municipal police and employed in the town area. On 25 June, the Bereitschaft Oranienburg was relieved by a KVP unit from Leipzig, allegedly a school. Normal training was resumed on that day. 1

5.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

25X1

SECRET

25X1

- 2 -

25X1A

25X1

6. Beginning in early July, a discharge program was under way with the Bereitschaft. It was scheduled to be completed by 30 July. Prior to 25 July, 64 KVPs were discharged. They included sick or politically unreliable personnel, as well as KVPs with more than 3 years of service. About 80 officers were given notice for 1 August. KVP members who had applied for a transfer to the municipal police were detached to the EVDVP and were given leave until their new employment started. Replacements from other Bereitschaften kept arriving. They included 80 to 100 men for the C-detail, who came from Prora on Rügen Island, on 15 July.

25X1

7. The AAA school in Oranienburg Castle had the designation KVP Schule Oranienburg I. the cadre unit numbered about 150 officers and estimated the strength of the instruction courses at about 400 men.

25X1

1. Comment. The fact that elements of the Bereitschaft Oranienburg were at the Weisswasser troop training grounds until 17 June is mentioned for the first time. Recent reports on transportation, however, also indicated that the Weisswasser troop training grounds was being utilized by the Bereitschaft Oranienburg.

25X1

25X1 25X1 2. Comment. also reported discharges, and replacements detached from the Armeegruppe Nord.

25X1

SECRET

25X1